

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115445

ROME FOR MAYNES, NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO

SUBJ: BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES

FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES CON-
SIDERATION AS DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR MAY 10 MEETING WITH
DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW.

1. STATUS OF U.S. CONTRIBUTION

ALL FOUR CONGRESSIONAL SUBCOMMITTEES (SENATE AND HOUSE
AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEES) HAVE COM-
PLETED THEIR HEARINGS ON THE DEPARTMENT'S FY 1978 SUPPLE-
MENTAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST AND ITS REGULAR FY 1979 SUB-
MISSION. FOR UNESCO, WE REQUESTED DOLS. 37,275,000 TO
COVER THE BALANCE OF OUR 1977 DUES (DOL. 10,037,500) AND
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OUR 1978 CONTRIBUTION OF DOLS. 27,237,500, PLUS ABOUT
DOLS. 31.9 MILLION FOR OUR 1979 CONTRIBUTION AND FOR TAX
EQUALIZATION ADJUSTMENTS. THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEES AND
THE SENATE AUTHORIZATION SUBCOMMITTEE HAVE CONCLUDED
THEIR MARKUP SESSIONS AND LEFT UNESCO FUNDS INTACT. THE
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE WILL NOT HOLD MARKUP
UNTIL JUNE, AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE WILL BE HARD

QUESTIONS ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND THE LIKE WHICH MAY WELL RUB OFF ONTO UNESCO.

2. AMERICAN PRESENCE IN THE SECRETARIAT

TO SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION PROVIDED TO MR. MAYNES' BRIEFING BOOK ON "RECRUITMENT OF AMERICANS TO UNESCO", WE SUGGEST THAT MR. MAYNES SHOULD RAISE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN AMERICAN DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL (DDG) (FOBES' SUCCESSOR). WE NOTE THAT IN SPITE OF M'BOW'S ORIGINAL INTENTION TO ABOLISH THE DDG POSITION (WE REFER HERE TO THE DG'S STATEMENT IN CLOSED SESSION OF EXBD LAST SEPTEMBER), HE MUST HAVE SINCE CHANGED HIS MIND. HIS PROPOSED ORGANIZATION CHART OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR 1979-1980 (SEE 20 C/5, PAGE 76) DOES INCLUDE POSITION OF DDG AND PROVIDES NECESSARY ALLOCATION FOR THE POSITION. AS THE CHART CLEARLY INDICATES, THE TWO ADG POSITIONS M'BOW HAD OFFERED TO U.S. IN THE PAST (ADG FOR ADMINISTRATION OR ADG FOR PROGRAM SUPPORT) ARE STRIPPED OF ANY REAL AUTHORITY OR INFLUENCE AND AMOUNT TO NOTHING MORE THAN SENIOR CLERICAL POSITIONS. PARENTHETICALLY, WE SHOULD LIKE TO OBSERVE THAT M'BOW'S ORIGINAL INTENTION IN THIS REGARD BECOMES MUCH MORE OBVIOUS NOW IN THE LIGHT OF HIS ABOVE MENTIONED CHART. HE HAS ELEVATED KNAPP (FRENCHMAN) TO A NEW POSITION OF ADG FOR STUDIES AND PROGRAMS AND TRANSFERRED TO THIS POSITION THE INFLUENTIAL FUNCTION OF THE BUREAU OF THE BUDGET WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY IN ADMINISTRATION SECTOR HEADED BY ADG RIGAUD (ALSO CONFIDENTIAL

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FRENCHMAN). SINCE KEEPING TWO FRENCH NATIONALS IN ADG POSTS PRESENTS OBVIOUS DIFFICULTY. M'BOW WAS WILLING TO ASSIGN AN AMERICAN TO A POST NOW DIVIDED INTO TWO ADG POSITIONS, ADMINISTRATION (LESS BUREAU OF BUDGET) AND PROGRAM SUPPORT, THUS SOLVING HIS TWO PROBLEMS, I.E. EASING OUT RIGAUD UNDER THE PRETEXT OF INCOMPETENCE (WHICH IS NOT TRUE) AND RESOLVING THE "AMERICAN PRESENCE" AT THE ADG LEVEL.

3. PREPARATION FOR 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE

A. ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ISSUE

EMBASSY ROME REQUESTED TO PASS TO MR. MAYNES STATE 114521, PLUS RESPONSES THERETO, WHICH PROVIDES LATEST INFORMATION ON SUBJECT MATTER AND FLAGS OUT POTENTIAL DANGERS FOR THE 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC).

B. MASS MEDIA ISSUE

(I) WE CONCUR WITH M'BOW'S APPRAISAL OF THE WIDE DIVERSITY OF VIEWS WHICH THE REVISED TEXT OF THE MASS MEDIA DRAFT

DECLARATION HAS ELICITED. HIS CONSULTATIONS, DESCRIBED IN HIS REPORT TO THE BOARD IN DOCUMENT 104 EX/28, HAVE CONFIRMED WHAT WE HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED, THAT CONSENSUS ON THIS INITIATIVE IS ELUSIVE IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE. WHY NOT TO

DEFER THE WHOLE PROJECT?

(II) IS THE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE STUDY OF COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY? (TWO MEETINGS HAVE BEEN HELD, IN PARIS AND STOCKHOLM; ANOTHER IS SCHEDULED FOR PARIS IN JUNE AND AN INTERIM REPORT TO BE MADE AT THE 20TH GC.)

(III) WE ARE GENUINELY CONCERNED WITH SOME OF THE EXTREMIST
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AND ANTI-UNESCO STATEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE BY DEFENDERS OF PRESS FREEDOM (E.G. GEORGE BEEBE). WE DISSOCIATE OURSELVES FROM SUCH EMOTIONAL OUTBURSTS, AND ASSERT THAT THEY MAKE NO CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.

(IV) WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO ASSIST THE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES TO IMPROVE THEIR ACCESS TO AND PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESSES OF COMMUNICATION. WE ARE ACTIVELY PURSUING SOME PROGRAMS ON OUR OWN AND WOULD ENTERTAIN ANY REQUESTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN UNESCO PROJECTS IN IMPLEMENTING THE TUNISIAN RESOLUTION OF THE 19TH SESSION OF THE GC.

(NOTE: WE ARE SENDING BY SEPTTEL TO PARIS BILL HARLEY'S PERTINENT OBSERVATIONS ON JUST CONCLUDED STOCKHOLM SEMINAR ON NEWS AGENCIES WHICH YOU MAY USE IN YOUR MEETING WITH M'BOW, AS APPROPRIATE).

C. RACE DECLARATION

(I) WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE M'BOW'S SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS AND THOSE OF THE AFRICAN CAUCUS TO ENSURE THAT NO REFERENCE, DIRECT OR INDIRECT, TO RES. 3379 APPEARED IN THE DRAFT ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS AT THE PARIS MARCH 13-20 CONFERENCE.

(II) WE WOULD HOPE THAT HIS REPORT TO THE GC, IDENTIFYING AREAS ON WHICH THERE WAS NO CONSENSUS WOULD EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT DESPITE SEVERAL AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT, ALL MEMBER STATES PRESENT WERE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE TEXT. IF THE DG THINKS HE HAS BEEN MANDATED TO REPORT ON SPECIFIC AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT, WE WOULD EXPECT THAT HE WOULD TREAT THE BRACKETED ARAB PREAMBULAR LANGUAGE REFERENCING ALL UN AND
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UNESCO RESOLUTIONS IN SAME WAY AS HE TREATS ALL OTHER NON-
AGREED AREAS.

(III) OUR MAIN CONCERN, OF COURSE, IS THAT THE DRAFT
DECLARATION NOT BE ALTERED IN ANY MAJOR RESPECT AND, IN
PARTICULAR, THAT IT INCLUDE NO DIRECT OR INDIRECT REFER-
ENCE TO RES. 3379.

WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT M'BOW WILL BRING HIS GREAT IN-
FLUENCE TO BEAR TO ENSURE THAT NO SUCH ANTI-ISRAEL INITIA-
TIVES ARE PERMITTED TO DISRUPT THE GC OR CASE A DARK
SHADOW UPON IT. WE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT
AFRICAN MEMBERS, IN PARTICULAR, HAVE REPEATEDLY DEMON-
STRATED--MOST RECENTLY AT THE RACE MEETING IN MARCH--THEIR
DETERMINATION TO OPPOSE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED ACTS THAT
COULD ONLY INTERFERE WITH THE LEGITIMATE GOALS OF THE
CONFERENCE. CHRISTOPHER

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